Universities in Gujarat facing precarious financial situation

2185. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU:
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:
SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention had been drawn to the report which appeared in the Times of India dated 23rd August, 1993 captioned "All universities in Gujarat facing precarious financial situation"; and

(b) if so, what steps have since been taken by Government and the University Grant Commission to augment the resources of these Universities in Gujarat?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The State Universities are set up by the acts of State Legislatures and their entire maintenance and development expenditure is met by the respective State Governments. UGC provides only development grants to the eligible States Universities, in accordance with the prescribed norms, and that too only for a part of their requirements. It is primarily the responsibilty of the concerned State Government to provide reasonable level of plan and Non-Plan grants to the Universities established by them. UGC has liberalised the scale of plan assistance to the Universities in the 8th plan.

Festival of India in China

2186. SHRI P. UPENDRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Festival of India is proposed to be held in China;

(b) If so, when the Festival is scheduled to be held; and

(c) what are the other countries where Festivals of India are proposed to be held?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Festival will be held for a period of 6 weeks in May—June, 1994.

(c) It is proposed to hold Festivals of India in Thailand and South Africa.

Activities of Zonal Cultural Centres

2187. SHRI P. UPENDRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Zonal Cultural Centres established some time ago and now functioning;

(b) what was the amount of money given by the Central and State Governments respectively to these Centres; and

(c) what were the major cultural events organised by these Centres till now?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) Seven Zonal Cultural Centres were set up during the Seventh Five Year Plan and all of them are now functioning.

(b) The details of amounts paid by the Centre and States for these Centres have been as under: